

Message Text

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APPROVED BY EA/IMS - MR. INGRAHAM

EA/VN - MR. PETERS

S/S:FORTIZ

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P R 242057Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094969

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: MISSIONARIES AT BAN ME THUOT

REF: A) STATE 89904, B) SAIGON 5273, 5300 C) JAKARTA 4786

1. CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY ALLIANCE HAS INFORMED US THAT CANADIAN EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR INFORMED CMA REP IN PENANG THAT DR. AND MRS. NORMAN JOHNSON, CANADIAN CMA MISSIONARIES IN GROUP MISSING AT BAN ME THUOT, HAD BEEN SEEN IN A CAMP NEAR THE CAMBODIAN BORDER AND WERE "ABLE TO CARRY ON THEIR MISSIONARY WORK WITH LEPERS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL IN THE CAMP OF 10,500 PERSONS." JOHNSONS DESCRIBED AS HAVING LOST WEIGHT BUT "WANTING THEIR CHILDREN (IN PENANG) TO KNOW THEY ARE FINE."

2. ALTHOUGH THIS REPORT RESEMBLES REFTEL REPORTS, IT CONTAINS ELEMENTS WHICH ARE MORE OPTIMISTIC, PARTICULARLY THE REFERENCE TO CARRYING ON MISSIONARY WORK AND THE MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN.

3. CANADIAN EMBASSY HERE SAYS IT UNDERSTANDS ABOVE INFO
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COMES FROM INDONESIAN ICCS RETURNEE, AND WAS GIVEN TO

CANADIAN EMBASSY JAKARTA. WOULD APPRECIATE JAKARTA CHECK-
ING WITH CANADIANS AND GOI TO ESTABLISH WHETHER INDONESIAN
ICCS RETURNEE OBSERVED JOHNSONS (AND OTHER MISSIONARIES)
"CARRYING ON THEIR WORK," AND WHETHER JOHNSONS SENT MESSAGE
TO THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH HIM. CMA AND CONGRESSIONAL
OFFICES STRONGLY INTERESTED. KISSINGER

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NNN

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